

December 1, 2000

Title: 2000 NY Long Island Sound Coastal Clean Up

Project Design: The American Littoral Society will coordinate the September 2001 International Coastal Cleanup at beaches in NY State that affect Long Island Sound. Outreach will be made to local environmental organizations, schools, colleges, scout groups and corporate volunteers to clean, document the litter and adopt a beach. Beach captains will be supplied with training, information and supplies needed for the cleanup. The cleanup will involve residents in a hands-on activity that will improve LIS and produce data to devise strategies for combating marine pollution. The cleanup will educate volunteers about marine pollution and what they can do on a daily basis to solve the problem of floatable debris. The cleanup will increase the public's awareness and appreciation of the coastal environment, especially the value of wetlands. It will increase cooperation between grassroots environmental organizations and local government. Information will be distributed concerning volunteer opportunities designed to improve LIS. Reports will be generated for the Long Island Sound Study, Center for Marine Conservation, and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

Organization: American Littoral Society

Location of Project: NY Long Island Sound Beaches

Contact: Don Riepe, Project Director

Address: NY Chapter, 28 West 9th Rd, Broad Channel, NY 11693

Phone: (718) 634 - 6467

LISS Funding: \$5,000

Title: Marine Ecosystems Research Methods

Project Design: For the third year the Marine Ecosystems Research Methods workshop for teachers will be a collaboration between the Bruce Museum and Soundwaters. The purpose is to reach a wide audience by training teachers to involve their students (approximately 1600) in meaningful, scientifically valid, research activities leading to increased understanding and appreciation of LIS. The primary focus of the 5 day workshop will be providing hands-on research experiences in marine science and easy to use classroom and field activities appropriate for upper elementary and middle school classes. In addition to exploring intertidal habitats from the lab for the second year schooner SoundWaters offers the opportunity to study offshore ecosystems and a wider variety of coastal sites. Workshop participants will use research methodology in different intertidal and subtidal marine ecosystems. They will develop lesson plans and materials for student research projects in the classroom and field which utilize the scientific method and critical thinking skills. Continuing Education Credits will be provided to participating Connecticut teachers.

Organization: Bruce Museum

Location of Project: Bruce Museum at Greenwich Point, Old Greenwich CT

Contact: Dr. Frank Cantelmo

Address: 1 Museum Drive Greenwich CT 06830

Phone: (203) 869-6786 ext 324

LISS Funding: \$5,000

Title: A Public Health Assessment of Estuarine Contamination: Pathogenic and Cadmium Contamination in Marine Bivalves at Grass Island

Project Design: Quantitatively assess background bivalve shellfish contamination of bacteria, cadmium contamination and cadmium contamination of river sediments as a baseline data set at the mouth of the East River in Guilford, CT to propose a possible upgrade from Restricted Shellfishing of bivalve shellfish to Conditional Shellfishing in the winter months of less recreational boating activity. They have selected the metal cadmium due to the nonpoint sources on the East River and that cadmium bioaccumulates in bivalve shellfish and can further bioaccumulate in human liver and kidney upon consumption of the shellfish. The water, clam meat, and sediment will be measured for cadmium distributions and areas will be mapped on a GIS data base exhibiting specific acreage which has the potential for upgrade classification to Conditional Shellfishing. Water analysis will also include enterococcal bacteria monitoring.

Organization: Clam Watch 2000

Location of Project: East River Guilford, CT

Contact: John Sieviec

Address: 50 Boston St. Guilford, CT 06437

Phone: (203) 453-8035

LISS Funding: \$1116

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Title: Connecticut Coastal Cleanup

Project Design: This project will bring a higher level of organization and volunteer participation to Connecticut's portion of the International Coastal Cleanup. A board of representatives from the various participating groups will be formed to plan and implement the cleanup. A part time organizer will be hired to work with the local organizations, volunteers, and CT Sea Grant to carry out the cleanup and educational activities, to distribute cleanup materials and collect resulting data, and to publicize the event. A slide show on the effects of marine debris, specific to LIS will be created and copied for the LISS CAC to use.

Organization: Connecticut Sea Grant

Location of Project: Connecticut shoreline

Contact: Peg VanPatten

Address: 1084 Shennecossett Rd, Groton, CT 06340

Phone: (860) 405-9141

LISS Funding: \$5,000

Title: Sound Stewardship

Project Design: The project will design and implement a new expanded three-session course for fourth graders in four Suffolk County schools on the Northshore of Long Island. The new course will feature a Living Sound and Water Pollution/Marine Debris component, teacher resource guide, and beach cleanup day. A public education initiative will accompany the course including a media alert to cover the four beach clean up days and a short broadcast quality video on the course and cleanup which will be incorporated into Cooperative Extension's video publication *On the Water* aired on local stations. The course will reach 300 students and more than twelve teachers, the public education initiative will reach 1.3 million. The teacher resource guide will contain four lesson plans, fact sheets, posters, vocabulary, and a list of web sites to visit.

Organization: Cornell Cooperative Extension

Location of Project: Suffolk County Northshore of Long Island

Contact: Stacy Myers

Address: 3690 Cedar Beach Rd, Southold, NY 11971

Phone: (631) 852-8660

LISS Funding: \$5,000

Title: Saybrook Point Riverfront Revitalization: Public Awareness of Tidal Wetland Ecosystems and Wildlife

Project Design: This project will develop an interpretive sign system at the Saybrook Point Park. Signs will describe plant and animal life and environmental systems that support them. The CTDEP Marsh Restoration Unit has already begun restoration at the site. These signs would inform the community and the visitors to the site about the value of the property. The four fiberglass embedded signs will be 18x24 inches and one will be 36x24 inches. The 18x24 signs will be rail mounted on the wooden observation platform at the marsh overlook. The 36x24 will be mounted on an angled exhibit base at the edge of the marsh by the paved trail.

Organization: Fort Saybrook Monument Parks Association

Location of Project: Saybrook Point at Mouth of Connecticut River, Gee's Pond and its tidal marshes

Contact: Kim Meadows

Address: 7 Willard Ave, Old Saybrook, CT 06475

Phone: (860) 388-2158

LISS Funding: \$4,755

Title: Conservation of Diamond Back Terrapins in Oyster Bay Harbor

Project Design: This project intends to reach out and educate the homeowners and public living in the Oyster Bay Harbor area about Diamond Back Terrapins. Terrapins are a critical living natural resource in LIS and play a significant role in the ecological balance of Oyster Bay Harbor. They will host a series of lectures, that will target the general public and high school science teachers and students, secondly, create an organized volunteer program that will offer hands on experience in meaningful field research that will lead to a management and conservation plan, thirdly, educate high-school, undergraduate, and graduate students, by advising them in field research related to the terrapin.

Organization: Long Island University CW Post

Location of Project: West Harbor and Mill Neck Creek in Oyster Bay Harbor

Contact: Matt Draud

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Address: Department of Biology, 720 Northern Boulevard, Brookville, NY 11548

Phone: (516) 299-3040

LISS Funding: \$5,000

Title: Guilford Salt Meadows Interpretive Trail

Project Design: The interpretive trail at Guilford Salt Meadows Sanctuary intends to enhance public use and education with an informational kiosk with trail map, sanctuary information and introductory educational information. A covered box will be mounted on the kiosk for distribution of a trail map/brochure. A series of 14 interpretive signs will be strategically placed along an existing 2 mile trail. The CTDEP is currently funding the kiosk, 10 signs, and the design of the trail map. The LISS will fund the additional four signs and the printing of the trail map. The signs will be 8x12 inches fiberglass graphic panels mounted on steel frames. The trail map (11x17) will include additional information on each habitat type and the species found at the Sanctuary and additional information for visitors on what they can do at home to attract wildlife and how to minimize impacts to wildlife.

Organization: National Audubon Society

Location of Project: Guilford Salt Meadows Sanctuary

Contact: Carolyn Hughes

Address: 185 East Flat Hill Road, Southbury CT 06488

Phone: (203) 264-5098

LISS Funding: \$3,437

Title: Indicator Bacteria in Sasco Brook

Project Design: The Nature Center plans to determine whether enteric indicator bacteria input to Sasco Brook is impacting the mouth of the Sasco Brook estuary. The project is supplemental to an ongoing water quality baseline research being conducted by Harbor Watch/River Watch of the Nature Center. A team of eight students from Staples and Joel Barlow High Schools will accomplish the water monitoring for this project. They will use three existing sites and establish four new sites to better identify where the bacteria is coming from.

Organization: Nature Center for Environmental Activities

Location of Project: Fairfield/Westport border

Contact: Richard Harris

Address: 10 Woodside Lane, Westport, CT 06880

Phone: (203) 227-7253

LISS Funding: \$4,952

Title: Alley Creek Habitat Study

Project Design: Extension of the 2000 project to determine if Alley Creek is or could be suitable trout habitat and what steps could be taken to upgrade or restore the habitat. The results to date are encouraging, however they would like to extend the water quality monitoring for an additional three months next summer. As well as establish continuous monitoring at one location in each branch of the creek for temperature using in stream electronic data loggers. They plan to stock trout fingerlings in the late spring followed by electroshocking in late August. They are working with Alley Pond Environmental Center to restore the area so that it could be used as a field classroom.

Organization: New York City Trout Unlimited

Location of Project: Alley Pond Park Queens

Contact: Fred Thorner/Wayne Tusa

Address: 325 East 41st Street, New York NY 10017

Phone: (212) 687-2493

LISS Funding: \$3,360

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Title: Show and Tell: Environmental Models for Presentations to Garden Clubs

Project Design: During 2000 the Rivers Alliance of Connecticut offered 20 educational lectures to civic organizations such as garden clubs throughout Connecticut, reaching over 800 people. The lectures addressed nonpoint source pollution reduction, habitat enhancement, and nitrogen reduction through the use of two portable environmental models that dramatically demonstrated to the lay person the processes of surface runoff and groundwater contamination. Due to the positive review of the presentations they will be working with the Federated Garden Clubs and other community organizations such as schools and nature centers to continue the lectures into 2002.

Organization: Rivers Alliance of CT

Location of Project: Connecticut

Contact: Margery Winters

Address: 111 Main St Collinsville CT 06022

Phone: (860) 693-1602

LISS Funding: \$4,776

Title: Local Water Quality Education

Project Design: This project will educate residents of the Long Island Sound watershed about the local water quality issues. Save the Sound will take the 2000 water quality monitoring results on the road and present them to seven communities. The goal is that the public will become more aware of the quality of their harbor's waters and the significant role they play in improving it.

Organization: Save the Sound

Location of Project: Guilford, CT to Manhasset Bay, NY

Contact: Jennifer Thalhauser

Address: 185 Magee Ave, Stamford, CT 06902

Phone: (203) 327-9786

LISS Funding: \$4,920

Title: Senior Ecology

Project Design: Soundwaters will work with the Stamford Senior Center to invite senior citizens from Fairfield County to attend four sessions at the new SoundWaters Center at the historic Holly House at Cove Island Park, four sessions at field sites and one session aboard the schooner SoundWaters. The seniors will learn about the plants and animals that live in Long Island Sound and its watershed. They will learn how to handle the animals in the Center's touch tank, answer frequently asked questions about the Center's exhibits, describe the problems the Sound faces and give suggestions about what each of us can do in our daily lives to protect this resource. The seniors who participate in the programs and go through the training will be encouraged to volunteer at the center.

Organization: SoundWaters Inc

Location of Project: Stamford/ Greenwich CT and surrounding towns

Contact: Emily Dupignac

Address: Cove Island Park, 1281 Cove Road, Stamford CT 06902

Phone: (203) 323-1978

LISS Funding: \$5,000

Title: Water Quality/Habitat Improvement Project Signs

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Project Design: To further the educational value of restoration projects Westchester County Planning Department will install free standing educational signs at the following restoration sites: Five Islands Park in New Rochelle, Edith Read Natural Park and Wildlife Sanctuary, Flint Park in Larchmont, Town Park in Pound Ridge, New Rochelle High School, Beaver Swamp Brook in Harrison, Rye High School, Nature Study Woods in New Rochelle, and Paine Lake in New Rochelle. One to two signs would be posted at each location. They will be mounted to posts anchored into the ground and stand approximately three feet above ground. Each sign will have text written to suit the specific site. It will explain the sites ecology, threats from pollution and human encroachment, project scope and the projects importance to water quality and fish and wildlife habitat. Signs will measure 18 by 24 inches.

Organization: Westchester County Planning Department

Location of Project: Westchester County

Contact: Robert Doscher

Address: 148 Martine Avenue, Room 432, White Plains, NY 10601-4704

Phone: (914) 285-4422

LISS Funding: \$5,000

Title: Sound Leaders

Project Design: Sound Leaders will create a student leadership program, which focuses on environmental issues in the LIS. The leadership program will improve the water quality of Long Island Sound watershed through education and inspiring stewardship in students through a student leadership council and a student watershed symposium. The student leadership Council will bring the classroom and community together by involving students on local government boards and planning community awareness days. The Council will meet monthly to discuss leadership skills, water quality, current events and have guest speakers. One or two students will be selected from four LIS Watershed schools. The students will be encouraged to attend and participate in local government board meetings and plan four community awareness days. The Student Watershed Symposium is an annual conference where students gather to discuss water quality, watersheds and land use decision making. The event includes student exhibits and presentations, the "Watershed Olympics" a mock land use hearing, a land use exercise and lunchtime watershed fair. This year they plan to expand the symposium with four satellite symposiums to reach an additional 200 students.

Organization: Westchester County Department of Planning

Location of Project: Westchester County

Contact: Natara Feller

Address: 148 Martine Avenue, 432 Michaelian Office Building, White Plains, NY 10601

Phone: (914) 285-3786

LISS Funding: \$4,957